Amendments to the Claims

1   Claim 1 (original): A method of uniquely identifying resources, comprising steps of:

2   modeling the resources using a hierarchical schema, wherein classes in the schema

3   correspond to resource types and wherein instances in the schema represent individual resources,

4   each instance being associated with one of the classes according to the resource type of the

5   individual resource represented by the instance; and

6   defining, at a topmost class of the hierarchical schema, a naming rule property and an

7   instance identity property, wherein:

8   each class at levels of the hierarchical schema beneath the topmost level inherits

9   the naming rule property and the instance identity property;

10   a value of the naming rule property for a selected class identifies properties of the

11   selected class that enable instances of the selected class to have unique identities; and

12   an instance of the selected class specifies the unique identity for that instance,

13   using the identified properties for the selected class.

1   Claim 2 (original): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2   creating an identity for a particular one of the resources, using the naming rule for the

3   class with which a particular instance that represents the particular resource is associated; and

4   storing the created identity as the value of the instance identity property for the particular

5   instance.

1   Claim 3 (original): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of locating a

2   particular instance that represents a particular resource using the value of the instance's identity

3   property.

1   Claim 4 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the value of the instance identity

2   property for a selected one of the instances comprises a local identity.

1   Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 4, <u>wherein the value of the</u>

2   <u>instance identity further comprises an identification of a scoping context that is required to</u>

3   <u>provide uniqueness of the instance identity value.</u> ~~wherein the local identity comprises a class~~

4   ~~name for the class with which the instance is associated and one or more name/value pairs,~~

5   ~~wherein each name/value pair comprises a property name and a value for that property name,~~

6   ~~using property names specified as the value of the naming rule property for the class.~~

1   Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 4, <u>wherein the local identity</u>

2   <u>comprises a class name for the class with which the instance is associated and one or more</u>

3   <u>name/value pairs, wherein each name/value pair comprises a property name and a value for that</u>

4   <u>property name, using property names specified as the value of the naming rule property for the</u>

5   <u>class.</u> ~~wherein the value of the instance identity further comprises an identification of a scoping~~

6   ~~context that is required to provide uniqueness of the instance identity value.~~

1   Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to Claim [[5]] <u>6</u>, wherein:

2   the value of the instance identity further comprises an identification of a scoping context

3   that is required to provide uniqueness of the instance identity value; and

4   the identification of the scoping context comprises a scoping class name that identifies a

5   selected one of the classes, wherein the particular resource is unique within the selected class,

6   along with one or more name/value pairs, wherein each name/value pair comprises a scoping class

7   property name and a value for that scoping class property name, wherein the scoping class

8   property names are specified as the value of the naming rule property for the scoping class.

1   Claim 8 (original): The method according to Claim 7, wherein the scoping class name is identified

2   in the value of the naming rule property for the class with which the instance is associated.

1   Claim 9 (currently amended): The method according to Claim [[5]] 6, wherein the value of the

2   instance identity further comprises an identification of a root scope within which the particular

3   resource is unique.

1   Claim 10 (original): The method according to Claim 9, wherein the identification of the root

2   scope comprises a domain name within which the particular resource is located.

1   Claim 11 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the value of the naming rule

2   property is specified using a structured document.

1   Claim 12 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the value of the naming rule

2   property is specified using a structured markup language.

1   Claim 13 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the hierarchical schema is an

2   object-oriented schema.

1   Claim 14 (original): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of creating an

2   identity for a particular one of the resources, using the naming rule for the class with which a

3   particular instance that represents the particular resource is associated.

1   Claim 15 (currently amended): A system for uniquely identifying resources, comprising:

2   a hierarchical schema that models a plurality of resources, wherein classes in the schema

3   correspond to resource types and wherein instances in the schema represent individual resources,

4   each instance being associated with one of the classes according to the resource type of the

5   individual resource represented by the instance; and

6   a naming rule property and an instance identity property defined means for defining, at a

7   topmost class of the hierarchical schema, a naming rule property and an instance identity property,

8   wherein:

9   each class at levels of the hierarchical schema beneath the topmost level inherits

10   the naming rule property and the instance identity property;

11   a value of the naming rule property for a selected class identifies properties of the

12   selected class that enable instances of the selected class to have unique identities; [[and]]

13   an instance of the selected class specifies a unique identity for that instance, using

14   the identified properties for the selected class; and

15   ~~means for overriding~~ the value of the naming rule property <u>is overridable</u> at any of

16   the levels of the hierarchical schema beneath the topmost level.

1   Claim 16 (currently amended): A computer program product for uniquely identifying resources,

2   the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and

3   comprising:

4   computer readable program code [[means]] for accessing a hierarchical schema that

5   models a plurality of resources, wherein classes in the schema correspond to resource types and

6   wherein instances in the schema represent individual resources, each instance being associated

7   with one of the classes according to the resource type of the individual resource represented by

8   the instance;

9   computer readable program code [[means]] for defining, at a topmost class of the

10   hierarchical schema, a naming rule property and an instance identity property, wherein:

11   each class at levels of the hierarchical schema beneath the topmost level inherits

12   the naming rule property and the instance identity property;

13   a value of the naming rule property for a selected class identifies properties of the

14   selected class that enable instances of the selected class to have unique identities; and

15   an instance of the selected class specifies a unique identity for that instance, using

16   the identified properties for the selected class; and

17   computer readable program code [[means]] for overriding the value of the naming rule

18   property at any of the levels of the hierarchical schema beneath the topmost level.

1   Claim 17 (currently amended): A method ~~of~~ <u>of</u> generating unique resource identities, comprising

2   ~~steps of~~:

3   determining a particular resource for which a unique resource identity is to be generated;

4   accessing a class hierarchy with which resources are modelled, thereby obtaining a class

5   definition for a class that corresponds to a resource type for the particular resource;

6   locating, in the class definition, a naming rule that specifies how identities for instances of

7   the class are to be generated; and

8   generating the identity for the particular resource using the located naming rule.